

REMARKS

Sixty-nine claims are currently pending in the present Application. Claims 49-50 and 62-65 currently stand rejected. In addition, claims 1-48, 51-61, and 66-69 are allowed. Accordingly, claims 49-50 and 62-65 are cancelled herein in order to place the Application in condition for immediate allowance. Reconsideration of the Application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Cancellation Of Rejected Claims

In the Office Action of December 16, 2004, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-48, 51-61, and 66-69 are allowed. The Examiner has also indicated that claims 49-50 and 62-65 remain rejected. Because of the Applicants' wish to expedite the allowance and issuance of the present Application, Applicants therefore refrain from further discussing the cited references, and instead, herein cancel all currently rejected claims without prejudice to thereby place the Application in condition for immediate allowance.

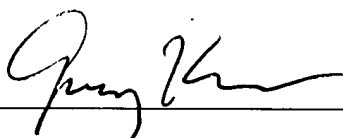
The Applicants expressly state that the rejected claims are not cancelled herein for reasons of patentability. The rejected claims are cancelled solely to expedite the allowance and issuance of the Application. Furthermore, the Applicants also reserve the right to seek allowance of any additional claims in Applications that may claim priority in the present Application.

Summary

Applicants submit that the present Response and amendments herein address and overcome the Examiner's rejections. In light of the differences between the claimed invention and the cited prior art, Applicants submit that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited art, and respectfully request the Examiner to allow claims 1-48, 51-61, and 66-69, so that the present Application may issue in a timely manner. If there are questions or comments concerning this amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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